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Dated: December 30, 2003

Signature:

*Richard H. Anderson*  
(Richard H. Anderson)

Docket No.: 27611/36440A  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Michael J. McNallan et al.

Application No.: 09/838,458

Filed: April 19, 2001

For: A PROCESS FOR CONVERTING A METAL  
CARBIDE TO DIAMOND BY ETCHING IN  
HALOGENS



Art Unit: 3682

Examiner: J. V. Howard

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**GROUP 3600**

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2003 (Paper No. 8), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.